

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete the title and replace it with the following amended title:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTROLLING AN EXPOSURE PERIOD OF A  
SOLID-STATE IMAGING APPARATUS BASED UPON AN IMAGE SIGNAL OUTPUT

On page 10, please delete the paragraph beginning on line 20 with the following amended paragraph:

Next, the operation of the solid-state imaging apparatus 200 is described. Until the exposure state is included within the appropriate range, the exposure time L is extended or shortened based on the first exposure information D1 in the same manner as a conventional example. If the exposure state is included within the appropriate range, the exposure time L is determined in unitunits of one step based on the second exposure information D2.